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April 20, 2004

**To:** Friends of the Ocean

**From:** Mike Chrisman, Secretary for Resources  
Terry Tamminen, Secretary for Environmental Protection

**Subject:** California Ocean Summit and Review of U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy's Preliminary Report

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We would like to invite you to join us in Sacramento for the "California Ocean Summit" on Thursday, May 6, 2004 in the Central Valley Auditorium at the California Environmental Protection Agency on 1001 I Street. This will be an important opportunity for California to obtain the advice and recommendations of leading California experts on developing a national ocean policy. William D. Ruckelshaus, the first administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, will begin the day with a presentation of the findings in the U.S. Commission for Ocean Policy's Preliminary Report.

Today, the Commission released this long awaited report with draft findings and recommendations regarding the development of a coordinated and comprehensive national ocean policy. The Preliminary Report addresses a broad range of issues, from ocean governance to the stewardship of marine resources and pollution prevention to enhancing and supporting marine science, commerce and transportation.

This report represents the single most significant effort to address national ocean policy issues since the publication of the "Stratton Report" in 1969, which resulted in the formation of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, among other major changes in federal law and governance. When finalized, the Preliminary Report will be submitted to the President and Congress for consideration and action.

The nation's governors have been given an extremely short turnaround time of 30 days to review and respond to this report (available at <http://www.oceancommission.gov>). We want to ensure that our comments will drive actions that are beneficial to California's ocean resources and economy and will use the Ocean Summit to help achieve that goal. Expert testimony from members of the research community, industry and public interest/user groups in California will assist the Governor in preparing his comments on the report. This will be a highly informative day with some of the top experts in these fields in the nation providing their input – no other testimony will be taken.

We welcome any comments on the report that you recommend the Governor consider in preparing his comments to the Commission. We ask that you submit any comments to [COPPublic@resources.ca.gov](mailto:COPPublic@resources.ca.gov) by **Tuesday, May 4**. Feel free to submit any further comments you may have as a result of testimony given at the Ocean Summit by **Tuesday, May 11**.

The Governor will structure his comments on the U.S. Commission's report using the long established mission and goals of California's ocean strategy, "California's Ocean Resources: An Agenda for the Future" (available at <http://resources.ca.gov/ocean>). The mission is:

*To ensure comprehensive and coordinated management, conservation, and enhancement of California's ocean resources for their intrinsic value and for the benefit of current and future generations.*

We ask that you organize your comments on the Preliminary Report from the standpoint of how they help achieve the goals of the ocean strategy, which are:

- Stewardship. *To assess, conserve, restore, and manage California's ocean resources and the ocean ecosystem.*
- Economic Sustainability. *To encourage environmentally sound, sustainable, and economically beneficial ocean resource development activities.*
- Research, Education and Technology. *To advance research, education programs, and technology developments to meet future needs and uses of the ocean.*
- Jurisdiction and Ownership. *To maximize California's interests within State Tidelands, the territorial sea, and the exclusive economic zone.*

Your attendance at the Ocean Summit is highly encouraged and we thank you in advance for your assistance in helping California remain at the forefront of national ocean policy development. If you have questions regarding the Ocean Summit please contact Brian Baird, Ocean Program Manager, by e-mail at [Brian@resources.ca.gov](mailto:Brian@resources.ca.gov) or by phone at 916.657.0198.